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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BUENOS 02560 120225 Z

14
ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 JUSE-00 SSO-00 SS-15 SNM-02

INR-10 INRE-00 NSCE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 IGA-02 RSR-01

RSC-01 /080 W
---------- 045787
O 120140 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1656
BNDD HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CUSTOMS HQS WASH DC IMMEDIATE
CIA HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BUENOS AIRES 2560

DEPT PASS AID

EO 11652 GDS
SNAR/ AR

DEPT. OF STATE FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HURWITCH. BNDD
FOR ENC/ MR. DURKIN, ATTENTION MR. STRICKLER, DA-2. CUSTOMS
FOR MR. EYMAN. AID FOR MR. ROUSH.

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: POLICE EQUIPMENT REQUEST

REFTEL BUENOS AIRES A-582 DATED NOVEMBER 15, 1972

1. AS MIGHT HAVE BEEN ANTICIPATED ANY DISCUSSION OF
ASSISTANCE TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT' S PART IN OUR
WORLDWIDE NARCOTICS EFFORT CAN CREATE SIGNIFICANT
PROBLEMS. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, THIS EMBASSY HAS
JOINED WITH THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT CONATON IN ESTABLISH-
ING BINATIONAL WORKING GROUPS IN THE NARCOTICS ACTION AREA.
ONE OF THESE, THE WORKING GROUP FOR SECURITY, INTELLIGENCE
AND CONTROL, HAS BEEN CONSIDERING EMBASSY REQUESTS FROM
FOUR ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OF THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT.
THESE DISCUSSIONS HAD BEEN PROCCEDING APACE UNTIL FOLLOWING
THE LAST MEETING (5 APRIL) WHEN IT BECAME PAINFULLY OBVIOUS
SECRET

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TO THE ARGENTINE POLICE THAT FOR WHAT THEY CONSIDER
" BUREAUCRATIC REASONS" WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE
SPECIFIC TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT OR FUNDS TO
REFURBISH AND MODERNIZE THE PHYSICAL SPACE SET ASIDE FOR
THEIR NARCOTICS UNIT. IN THE LATTER CASE WE ONLY HAVE AN
ORAL TURNDOWN BUT UNDERSTAND FROM MR. JAMES ROUSH THAT THIS
IS NOT USUALLY ALLO
IMPRESSION UPON FRENCH HOSTS. GREEK PRESS SPECULATED
EVE OF VISIT THAT ANGELIS INTERESTED IN PURCHASING FRENCH
ARMORED VEHICLES. LATER LE FIGARO ARTICLE INTIMATING THAT
ANGELIS VISIT MAY BE " THE MANIFESTATION OF INTEREST IN THE
PURCHASE OF FRENCH WEAPONS" CITED ONLY IN ENGLISH- LANGUAGE
PRESS HERE. ANTI- GOG TO VIMA OF APRIL 6 RAN EXCERPTS
FROM LE MONDE EDITORIAL CABLED APRIL 5 REGRETTING LOSS OF
MIRAGE SALE IN GREECE IN FAVOR AMERICAN PHANTOM AND NOTING
THAT CONSORTIUM WHICH INCLUDES DASSAULT WHICH AIMS TO EQUIP
GREEK CIVIL AND MILITARY AVIATION WILL MAINTAIN FRENCH HAND IN
AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY. FRENCH EDITORIAL NOTED ONLY FRANCE AND
CYPRUS DID NOT SIGN COUNCIL OF EUROPE DENUNCIATION OF GREEK REGIME
AND RECALLED GREEK VISIT OF UNDERMINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS
LIPOWSKI JANUARY 1972 WHEN HE STATED FRANCE AND GREECE CONNECTED
BY STRONG TIES WITH DEEP UNDERSTANDING ABOUT NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE.

4. FOREIGN POLICY EDITOR ALEXANDRA STEFANOPOULOU SIGNED LENGTHY
ARTICLE APRIL 10 IN PRO- GOG ELEFTHEROS COSMOS WHICH PLAYED UP
IMPORTANCE ANGELIS VISIT BY QUOTING FROM WELCOME ADDRESS OF
GENERAL MAURIN IN WHICH HE REFERRED TO GREECE AS VALUABLE ALLY.
SHE ALSO RECALLED DE GAULLE' S 1963 COMMENT FRANCE AND GREECE
AWARE THEY HAVE COMMON DESTINIES AND WANT COMBINE THEIR EFFORTS,
WITH EDITOR EMPHASIZING THIS STILL VALID ASSESSMENT TODAY.

5. COMMENT: DURING COURSE OF APRIL 11 MEETING WITH HAF
VICE CHIEF MG PAPAVASSILIOU, LATTER TOLD POL/ MIL OFFICER
THAT VISIT OF GENERAL ANGELIS WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT RESULT
IN PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL FRENCH MILITARY EQUIPMENT.
TASCA

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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